The Constitution

of

The Nikhil Bishnupriya-Manipuri Mahasabha

Estd:—1932.

(Registration No. 82 of 1965—66)

Accepted in the 30th. Patharkandi Session.

and

Amended in the 31st. Kailasahar (Guldharpur) Session.

8th. & 9th April—1978.

Nanda Kishore Sinha
President,
Nikhil Bishnupriya-Manipuri
Mahasabha
9. 4. 78.

Golap Sinha.
President,
31st Open Session of
the Mahasabha.
9. 4. 78.

Constitution of the Nikhil Bishnupriya Manipuri Mahasabha.

(As amended at the 31st. Session of the Nikhil Bishnupriya Manipuri Mahasabha, held on the 8th. & 9th. April 1978 at Kailasahar, Tripura.)

Article 1 :– NAME AND STYLE OF THE ORGANISATION :—

The name of the Organisation shall be "NIKHIL BISHNUPRIYA MANIPURI-MAHASABHA here-in-after called Mahasabha.

Article II :— Aims and objects.

The aims and objects of the Mahasabha are to promote all-round development and wellbeing of the entire Bishnupriya-Manipuri Community in all it's spheres— Social, Cultural, Linguistic, Religious, Economic and Educational.

Article III :— Constituent :—

The Mahasabha will comprise :—

(a) The Nikhil Bishnupriya-Manipuri Mahasabha Committee having a Working Committee of it's own and it's Sub-ordinate Committees namely Zonal Committees, Sub-Zonal or Branch Committiees and primary committiees respectively.

(b) Radha Madhav Seva Committee.

(c) Sahitya Parisad.

(d) Sanskriti Parisad.

(e) Economic Committee.

Article IV :— Organisational Divisions :—

(A) For effective organisational works of the Mahasabha, the Zonal areas under it's jurisdiction will be as follows :–

(1) Cachar Zone (Silchar & Hailakandi Sub-divisions)

(2) Karimganj Zone (Singla, Pratapgarh & Gorerbond Parganas.)

(3) Tripura Zone (Whole Tripura State)

(4) Asman (অশ্মন্) Zone (covering the Bishnupriya Manipuri people living outside the above Zones)

The head-quarters of the Zones will be decided by the Zonal Committees with previous sanction of the Working Committee of the Mahasabha.

(B) The working Committee, after ascertaing the wishes of the Zonal Committees, may constitute a new Zone abolishing an existing one which may merge any Zonal parts and may assign a portion of an area to other Zone or areas.

Article V :— Membership.

(a) Each and every man or woman of the Bishnupriya Manipuri Community, having attained the age of 18 (eighteen) years and owing alligiance to the constitution shall be a general member of the Mahasabha paying an annual subscription of Rupee 1·00 (one) only in the prescribed forms.

(b) A general member will be eligible for enrolling himself or herself as a member of the different constituent bodies of the Mahasabha through election or selection and on payment of the scheduled fees for the membership of the different constituent bodies under Article No. 12.

(c) The time of a primary or general member shall be for a year ending on 31st March ; the membership may be renewed on payment of usual fees only.

(d) A member should be a believer in our communal unity having respect for the faiths of others and should also be a devotee to some constructive activities of the community as laid down from time to time by the Working Committee.

(e) The annual subscription paid by primary members shall be distributed in the following proportions amongst the different committees :—

(1)	Working Committee of the N. B. M. M.	50%
(2)	Zonal committees of the ,,	25%
(3)	Branch or Sub-Zonal of the ,,	15%
(4)	Primary ... ... ,,	10%

Article VI :— Formation of the constituents.

(a) Primary Committee :— A habitation / habitations having a population ranging from 100 to 500 and having at least 25 primary members shall form a primary unit. The primary members shall elect a committee of 9 to 11 member including President and Secretary for the unit and elect 2 (two) more members to the Sub-Zonal Committee, provided that the elected members shall have to be primary members.

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(b) Sub-Zonal Committee/Branch Committee :—An area having a minimum of 10 (ten) primary units shall have a Sub-Zonal or Branch Committee with the members elected to it and also the Presidents of the primary units. The President and the Secretary of the Sub-Zonal/Branch Committee shall be elected from amongst the members of the Sub-Zone, provided that the Primary Committee Presidents shall not be eligible for becoming either President or Secretary of the Sub-Zone.

(c) (x) Zonal Committee :— A Zonal Committee shall be formed in each Zonal area with the following members.

(1) One member elected from each Sub-Zonal/Branch Committee area.

(2) Presidents of the Sub-Zonal or Branch Committees.

(3) Ex-Presidents of the Zonal Committee.

(4) Representatives of the organisations and institutions working in the Zone.

provided that the Sub-Zonal or Branch Committee Presidents & Secretaries shall not be eligible to become either Presidentor Secretary of the Zonal Committee.

The members, mentioned clause (c) above shall elect a President and a Secretary from amongst themselves.

(c) (y) Special Zonal Committees may be formed for the Zones not fulfilling the requirements of clause (c) (x) at the annual session of the Nikhil Bishnupriya-Manipuri Mahasabha.

NIKHIL BISHNUPRIYA-MAHASABHA COMMITTEE.

The Nikhil Bishnupria-Manipuri Mahasabha shall consists of :—

(a) One fifth of the member of each Zonal Committee members elected by them amongsts themselves provided the number is not less than five.

(b) Ex-Presidents provided they are enrolled as members.

(c) Members co-opted by the Working Committee from special elements not adequately represented, Representations of organisation of institution working in India in accordance with the rules prescribed by Working Committee.

(d) The Nikhil Bishnupriya-Manipuri Mahasabha shall have the powers to deal matters and situations that may arise during the term of office, to frame rules which shall be binding on all subordinate committees.

(e) The Nikhil Bishnupriya-Manipuri Mahasabha shall meet as often as required by the Working Committee.

(f) One fifth of the total number of members shall form the quorum.

(g) Every member of the Nikhil Bishnupriya-Manipuri Mahasabha shall pay an annual fee of Rs. 10·00 (Rupees ten) only. Members will not be permitted to take part in any meeting of "Nikhil Bishnupriya-Manipuri Mahasabha or session without paying the fees.

Article VII :—Registers of Members :—

(a) Permenent Register of members shall be maintained by the Zonal and Branch Committees of the Mahasabha.

(b) The Registers shall state the full names, addresses, age, residence and date of enrolment of every member.

(c) Membership shall cease by death, resignation, removal or non-payment of annual fees.

Article VIII :— Qualifications of Voters and Candidates :—

Every primary member whose name appears in the roll of primary members' registers shall be entitled to vote in the election of members to the primary or subordinate committees of the Mahasabha and shall also be eligible for election as a member of any Committee but for the elective posts, the Candidates are of the age of 21 or over.

Article IX :—Associate, Co-opted and Nominated Members :—

No associate, co-opted or nominated member shall have the right to vote or to be an office bearer but he shall have the right to participate in the deliberation.

Article X :— Primary or Subordinate Committee :—

(a) The primary or Subordinate Committee shall cover an area having a population of round about 200 (two hundred) provided there shall be at least 25 members in that area. In case the number of primary members exceeds 50 in an area of 200 the shall elect 2 members to the Branch Committee.

(b) The election shall be by show of hands. Representatives of Organisation or Institutions working in the area in accordance with rules prescribed by the Working Committee.

Article XI : Branch Committee :—

The member eleeted by the members of primary Committee, Ex-President of the Primary Committees provided they shall not be eligible to become either President or Secretary of the Branch Committee, Ex-President of Branch or Zone

if he resides in the area, Representative of Organisations or Institutions working in the area in accordance with the rules prescribed by the Working Committee.

Article XII :— The Zonal Committee shall consist of :—

(i) (a) Members elected by the members of Branch Committees, at the rate of one for 500 (five hundred) population from single member constituencies as delimited by respective Zonal Committee.

(b) Ex-President of the Zonal Committee.

(c) Presidents of the Primary Committees, provided that they shall not be eligible to become either President or Secretary.

(d) Member Co-opted from special eliments not adequetly represented as prescribed by the Working Committee.

(e) Representatives of organisations and institutions working in the area with the rules prescribed by the Working Committees.

(ii) Every member of the Zonal Committees shall pay an annual fee of Rs. 3·00 (Rupees three) only of which Re 1·50 (Rupees one & fifty), only shall be forwarded to Nikhil Bishnupriya-Manipuri Mahasabha. No member who has not paid his fee shall be entitled to exercise any of his functions.

(iii) Every Zonal Committee shall ordinarily function through Branch Committees.

(iv) Every Zonal Committe shall submit to Working Committee an annual report of the work done by the organisation in the Zone including their audited balance sheet.

(v) On failure of any Zonal Committee to function in terms of the constitution or in accordance with the direction of the Working Committee, the latter may suspend the existing Zonal Committee and form an Ad-Hoc Committee to carry on Mahasabha work in the Zone.

Artcle XIII :—

The number of members in the Working Committees shall not exceed 31 and not below 21.

DELEGATES (Zonal representatives to the Central Body N. B. M. S.

All members of the Zonal Bishnupriya-Manipuri Mahasabha Committees shall elligible to be deligates to the Nikhil Bishnupriya-Manipuri Mahasabha.

Every delegates shall pay an annual fee of Rs. 5·00 (Rupees five) only.

Article XIV :— Subject Committee :—

The Nikhil Bishnupriya-Manipuri Mahasabha shall meet as the subject Committee under the Chairmanship of the President at least one day before the Session. The Working Committee or in case a new President has been elected before the session and there is no Working Committee appointed, a Steering Committee appointed by him shall submit to the subject Committee the programme of works including draft resolutions for the sessions.

The subject Committee shall proceed to discuss the programme and shall frame resolutions for being moved in the open session.

Article XV :— Annual Session :—

(a) The annual session of the Mahasabha shall ordinarily be held annually at the time and place decided upon by the Working Committee of Nikhil Bisnupriya-Manipuri Mahasabha.

(b) The session shall consider the resolutions recommended for adoption by the subject Committee.

(c) Thereafter the session shall take up any substantive motion not included in (b) requesting the President in writing at least by 5 member to allow them to place before the session provided, however, that no such motion shall be allowed unless it has been previously discussed at a meeting of subject Commitfee and has received the support of at least one third of the members present in the Subject Committee.

(d) The Zonal Bisnupriya-Manipuri Mahasabha Committee in whose jurisdiction the Mahasabha session is held, shall make such arrangement for holding the Mahasabha session as may be deemed necessary and for this purpose shall form a "Reception Committee" which shall work under its general guidance and which may include therein persons who are not members of Mahasabha.

(e) The Reception Committee shall elect its Chairman and other office bearers from amongst its own members.

(f) The Reception Committee shall collect funds for the expenses of the session and shall make all necessary arrangements for the reception and accomodation of the delegates. It shall also make necessary arrangements for the visitors.

(g) The receipts and disbursments of the Reception Committee shall be audited by an auditor or auditors appointed by the Working Committee. Any

surplus funds remaining with the Reception Committee shall be divided equally between the Zonal Committee and the Nikhil Bishnupriya-Manipuri Mahasabha.

(h) Each Zone shall elect at least 50 delegates to attend the annual session of the Mahasabha and 70 members of the delegates present will form the quorum.

(i) Each Zone should send the list of delegates along with the delegate fee @ Rs. 5·00 (five) per head to the Reception Committee so as to reach there 7 (seven) days ahead of the date of conference.

Article XVI :—Special Session :—

A special session of the Mahasabha shall be held in case the Working Committee decides or a majority of the Zonal Committees by their resolutions, request the President of the Mahasabha to convene such a special session. Such a special session shall be organised by the Zonal Committee of the Zone selected.

Article XVII :– Election of the President :–

(a) Any five delegates may jointly propose the name of any delegate for the election as President of the Mahasabha. Such proposal must reach the Returning Officer appointed by the Working Committee in the Subject Committee meeting.

(b) The Returning Officer shall publish the names of all candidates so proposed and it shall be open to any person whose name has been so proposed to withdraw his candidature in writing to the Returning Officer at least 30 mins before the time fixed for election.

(c) After eleminating the names of those who have withdrawn, the Returning Officer shall immediately announce the names of the remaing candidates and conduct the election by ballot and declare him elected as President of the next Session.

(d) In the event of any emergency arising by reason of any cause, such as death or resignation of the President elected, the Working Committee shall select a President who will act till the election of a new President by the Mahasabha. In case such procedure is not found possible by the Working Committee, it shall convene a meeting of the Nikhil Bishnupriya Manipuri Mahasabha to elect the President.

(e) The President shall preside over the Session of the Mahasabha held after his election.

Article XVIII :— Working Committee :—

(a) The Working Committee shall consist of :—

(i) President of the Mahasabha.

(ii) Vice-President—2

(iii) General Secretaries—3

(iv) 18 members to be elected by the Mahasabha.

(v) 7 members to be co-opted by the elected members.

Chairman of Radhamadhab Seva Committee, Sahitya Parisad, Sanskriti Parisad and Economic Commities should be selected from the elected members by the Working Committee.

(b) The quorum for a meeting of the Working Committee shall be nine.

(c) The Working Committee shall be the highest executive authority of the Mahasabha and shall have the power to carry into effect the policy and programme laid down by the Mahasabha and shall place before every meeting of the Mahasabha, a report of proceedings of the previous meetings and also agenda of business for the meetings.

(d) The Working Committee may appoint one or more auditors or Inspectors or other officers to examine the records, papers and accounts of Mahasabha or branches and organisations.

(e) (i) The Working Committee shall have the powers to frame rules to issue instructions and to superintendent, direct and control all the Zonal, Branch or Sub-ordinate Committees as well as the Reception Committee.

(ii) To take such disciplinary action as it may deem fit against Committee or any individual.

(iii) To place the audited accounts in the Annual Mahasabha Session.

(f) The Working Committee shall fix the date by which the formation of Primary, Sub-ordinate Branch, Zonal and Nikhil Bisnupriya Manipuri Mahasabha be completed.

(g) The Working Committee may appoint a Board of Trustees for holding properties belonging to Nikhil Bisnupriya-Manipuri Mahasabha. The term of the Board shall be for three years and the Treasurer of Mahasabha shall be an ex-office members of the Board.

(h) To meet any special situation the Working Committee shall have the power to take such action in the interest of the Mahasabha it may deem fit.

Article XIX :— Treasurer :—

The treasurer shall be incharge of the funds of the Mahasabha and shall keep proper accounts of all investments, income and expenditures.

Article XX :— General Secretaries :—

Subject to the General Control of the President the General Secretaries shall be incharge of office of the Mahasabha. They shall be responsible for preparation and publication of reports of the proceedings of the meetings and they shall submit an annual report of the works of the Mahasabha and the auditted accounts before the Working Committee to be placed in the next annual conference.

Article XXI :—

If there be more than one General Secretary, the responsibilties will be assigned by the President seperately.

Article XXII :— Literature, Culture aud Radhamadhab :—

There shall be three Committees under the Working Committee of the Mahasabha for the upliftment of (1) Language cum Literature (2) Culture and (3) to run the Radhamadhab Temple at Radhakunda, Chairman, and the member including Secretaries, one for each Committee not below 7 (seven) and exceeding 10 (ten) will be selected by the "Working Committee" of the Mahasabha.

Article XXIII :— MEETINGS :

To hold the Annual Session, Special Session, at least 15 days and Working and Executive Committees at 7 days before the meetings, the notices should be circulated.

Article XXIV :—VACANCIES :—

The office of a deligate of a member of any Committee or Board constituted under the constitution shall be vacated by resignation, removal or death.

(b) In case of absence in three consecutive meetings, the membership of any Committee may be ceased.

(c) All vacancies shall be filled up in the same manner in which the vacated member was chosen and members so selected.

Article XXV :— Scrutiny of Membership :—

The Branch and Zonal Mahasabha Committee shall arrange for periodical scrutiny and proposal of complaints regarding enrolment of members but complaints of a grave nature, the Working Committee may take up the scrutiny.

Article XXVI :— Election Disputes :—

The Executive Committee of Branch and the Zonal Committees shall arrange for disposal of complaints regarding Primary and Branch Organisations respectively and in case of Zonal, the Working Committee will enquire and take such action as may be deemed necessary.

XXVII :— Disciplinary Action :—

(a) If a member be harmful to the Mahasabha, the respective Executive Committee may warn him twice and in the third time, he may be expelled by the Executive Committees but appealies to the Working Committee of the Mahasabha

(b) In case of a member of the Working Committee, Delegate and Chairman of Literature, Culture and Radhamadhab Committees, the Working Committee of the Mahasabha will take up enquiry and take action as may be deemed necessary.

(c) In case of the President of the Mahasabha, two third votes of the Mahasabha delegates present will be required.

Article XXVIII :— FUND

For the interest of Organisation, the Working Committee of the Mahasabha may arrange collection of subscriptions or donations to create a fund for a reserve or for a particular purpose including develodment and maintainance of the Radhamadhab Temple.

Article XXX :— Changes of Constitutton ;—

The Constitution can be amended, altered or added to only by a Session of the Mahasabha and the changes made shall be placed before the next Session of the Mahasabha.

Article XXX :— Term of Committees :—

The term of every Committee shall be two years.

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